



**MEASURE J RE-IMAGINE LA
EDUCATION ACCESS
AND YOUTH SUPPORT SUBCOMMITTEE**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

1. The Education Access and Youth Support Subcommittee was called to order by Mari Ryono and Mandie Dixon at 6:04 p.m.
2. Introduction and Grounding
 - a. Mandie provided a brief overview of Measure J
 - b. Aparna and Mari were introduced as meeting facilitators
 - c. Aparna led brief discussion on Measure J being a strategy for advancing equity, healing, repair, and wellbeing into communities
 - d. Measure J funding recommendations process will be grounded in:
 - i. Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) ideas that came from the ATI Work Group process
 - ii. Measure J's language and focus areas that are listed in the motion
 - iii. The County of Los Angeles Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) efforts
 - e. Aparna discussed the purpose of the meeting and asked what the subcommittee wants Measure J to heal for people most impacted by systemic racism in the focus area of the subcommittee.
 - f. Mari described the meeting goals, reviewed the group agreements, and described the meeting agenda which includes community identified presentations and community discussion.
3. Reports and Presentations
 - a. Aparna introduced the presenters:
 - i. Ezekiel Nishiyama
 1. Introduced LAYUP (Los Angeles Youth Uprising Program which builds youth leadership to dismantle the racist juvenile justice system.
 2. Shared that his first stop upon release was at the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC)
 3. Shared that he received more meaningful assistance through ARC than he did through Probation
 4. Doesn't believe law enforcement is should be in charge of youth justice
 - ii. Lupita C. (Youth Justice Coalition)
 1. Provided her background
 2. Expressed the need for 24-hour youth centers
 3. Create peace builders

4. Teach financial literacy to the youth in addition to K-12 grades
 - iii. Jared O'Brien (Youth Justice Coalition)
 1. Shared his history experiencing homelessness, hunger, and probation.
 2. Jared recommended:
 - a. Jobs, scholarships, and bus passes for youth
 - b. Housing for youth
 - c. Prioritizing youth culture
 - d. Youth centers
 - b. Following the youth presentations, the following people provided public comments:
 - i. Marques Nunez
 - ii. Jennifer Pesavento
 - iii. Cynthia Cabello
 - iv. Maryjane Puffer
 - c. Following the comments, Mari led the subcommittee to a short break.
4. Community Discussion
- a. Aparna reminded the subcommittee of the goal which is to develop funding recommendations
 - b. The 3 Key elements of a funding recommendation
 - i. Who – identifying the most impacted groups in this subcommittee's focus area
 - ii. What – Identifying the disparities or challenges that exist for those impacted groups.
 - iii. How – identifying the services, investments, and/or strategies that can eliminate (or greatly reduce) those disparities and challenges for the impacted groups in the focus area.
 - c. Aparna also shared some previous responses of the subcommittee to the three key elements of a funding recommendation
 - i. Who included:
 1. Black and Latinx youth
 2. Systems involved youth
 3. Trans and LGBTQ youth
 - ii. Aparna also asked who should be added to the list of those groups upon whom the subcommittee should focus. Some answers included:
 1. Youth in homes with domestic violence
 2. Training for parents
 3. System impacted immigrant youth
 - iii. Aparna provided previous subcommittee responses to the "what question" including
 1. Low sense of self including lost access to heritage

2. Criminal justice system
 - a. Lack of access
3. Lack of funding to groups doing the work
4. Aparna again opened for comments on additional responses for the “what question” which included:
 - a. Lack of support to transgender youth in schools
 - b. Lack of transparent accountability in the service systems
 - c. Lack of transportation to community-based organizations for programs that offer help

5. Breakout Room Session

- a. Aparna led the subcommittee into a breakout room exercise where members were asked to discuss programs and initiatives related to the subcommittee focus area that Measure J should prioritize
- b. Following breakroom exercise, Aparna asked for recommended programs from breakout rooms
 - i. Some responses were:
 1. Decentralize services from Downtown LA to valley and South LA
 2. Funding youth and community hubs
 3. Fund afterschool programs
 4. Education access
 5. Care villages
 6. Alignment across different social systems

6. Public comment

- a. Aparna invited the public to provide comment. The following people provided public comment:
 - i. Nicole Brown
 - ii. Sophia Gonzalez
 - iii. Paulette Dunn-Sanders
 - iv. Hector Ramirez
 - v. Sophie Santana
- b. Following public comment, Mandie provided closing comments and next steps including the next meeting on March 2, 2021 at 8:30pm

7. Adjournment

Adjournment for the Measure J Re-Imagine LA Education and Youth Access Subcommittee of Tuesday, February 23, 2021.

There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned by Mandie Dixon at 8:29pm